

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 03284 121221Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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R 121130Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8031

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 3284

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL,UR

SUBJECT: ARTISTS ATTACKED FOR EXHIBITION OF UNORTHODOX  
PAINTINGS

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 2281 (B) MOSCOW 14691 (C) MOSCOW 17509

1. MOSCOW EVENING NEWSPAPER VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA ON MARCH 10 CONTINUED ITS RUNNING BATTLE WITH SOVIET AVANTE GARDE ARTISTS BY PUBLISHING SHARP ATTACK ON PAINTINGS SHOWN FEBRUARY 20-26 AT APIARY HALLON GROUNDS OF EXHIBITION OF ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS (REF A). YU. NEKHOROSHEV, THE APTLY NAMED EDITOR OF THE ART JOURNAL TVORCHESTVO, ASSERTED THAT THE GRANTING OF PERMISSION FOR THE "MINI-EXHIBIT" OF 70 PAINTINGS WAS PROOF OF THE ATTENTION SHOWN THE ARTISTS, BUT HE RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHY SO MUCH ATTENTION WAS ALSO SHOWN BY THE CAPITALIST PRESS. THE ANSWER HE SAW IS THE COMMON FACTOR UNITING THE ARTISTS -- THEIR DISREGARD OF POSITIVE TENDENCIES IN SOVIET LIFE AND THEIR OPEN CONTEMPT FOR EVERYTHING BUT THEIR OWN EGOS.

2. LABELING THE ARTISTS MALCONTENTED WHO ARE  
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ACTUALLY STUMBLING ABOUT IN THE WAKE OF PROGRESS RATHER

THAN BEING IN THE VANGUARD, NEKHOROSHEV LISTS THOSE ARTISTS WHOSE WORKS MOST IRRITATED HIM. THE NAMES ARE FAMILIAR FROM PREVIOUS ATTACKS IN VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA OF THE IZMAYLOVO PARK SHOW OF SEPTEMBER 26 (REF B) AND THE NOVEMBER 19,1974, SHOW IN THE CENTRAL BUILDING OF ART WORKERS (REF C). O. RABIN, D. PLAVINSKIY, O. KANDAUROV, V. NEMUKHIN, A. MASTERKOVA AND OTHERS ARE CRITICIZED FOR EROTICISM, MYSTICISM, AND APING PREVIOUS SCHOOLS OF ART: ABSTRACT IMPRESSIONISM, SURREALISM, EXPRESSIONISM, AND EARLY POP ART, ETC.

3. NEKHOROSHEV CHALLENGES THE USEFULNESS OF SHOWING SUCH WORKS SO FREQUENTLY, BUT HE ADMITS THE PRINCIPLE OF LETTING THE PUBLIC SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE REAL ESSENCE OF THOSE WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES AVANTE GARDE ARTISITS.

3. COMMENT: MEKHOROSHEV'S REMARKS SUGGEST THAT THE NEXT EXHIBITION MAY NOT COME AS EASILY OR AS RAPIDLY AS THE LAST THREE ON THE OTHER HAND, VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA HAS NOT IN THE PAST BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING THE FINAL WORD IN ITS RUNNING POLEMIC WITH THE UNORTHODOX ARTISTS.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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